

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DYNAMIC REDISTRIBUTION OF REMOTE
5 COMPUTER BOOT SERVICE IN A NETWORK
CONTAINING MULTIPLE BOOT SERVERS**

A method and a system are presented for facilitating a PXE-compliant (Preboot Execution Environment) remote boot process between clients and multiple servers. All clients are initially directed to the address of the central boot server when they initially request remote boot service. The central boot server returns the same small initial bootstrap program to every client, which is then executed by the client's embedded boot program. The received initial bootstrap program contains only enough logic to have the client request and receive a list of alternate boot server addresses. The list may be ordered to present to the client a series of best-available boot servers, or the client may search the list to determine an address of an alternate boot server that can efficiently continue the remote boot process. The client selects a boot server from the list and requests the next program from the selected boot server.

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